

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS BOARD OF EXAMINERS PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES March 20, 2014

The meeting of the New Jersey State Orthotics and Prosthetics Board of Examiners was held on March 20, 2014, at the State Office Building at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, NJ. The meeting was convened in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act with previous notification having been sent to the Secretary of State and the following publications: The Record in Bergen County, The Star Ledger, Camden Courier Post, Trenton Times, Aisling Swift Press of Atlantic City and Asbury Park Press, to advise of the scheduling of this meeting. The meeting was called to order by Heikki Uustal, M.D. (Chair) at 10:20 A.M.

OPENING STATEMENT - Reading of "The Sunshine Law"

PRESENT: Board Members Heikki Uustal, M.D. (Chair)
Mildred E. Carlascio, LCO, (Vice-Chair) and
Louis J. Haberman, CPO/LPO,

ALSO PRESENT: Deputy Attorney General Swang Oo and
Executive Director Laura L. Anderson

I. MINUTES: September 19, 2013, Public Session Minutes Approval

THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE BY MILDRED E. CARLASCIO AND SECONDED BY LOUIS J. HABERMAN, ACCEPTED THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2013 PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

II. LEGISLATION: Charles Manning, Regulatory Analyst

P.L.2013 Approved May 6, 2013

Requires credit towards licensure for education, training, and experience received while serving as a member of the armed forces.

Regulatory Analyst Manning to draft rules.

ASSEMBLY BILLS:

Bill A-606

This bill provides civil immunity to licensed health care professionals who provide care at health care facilities for no compensation.

THE BOARD, UPON THE MOTION MADE BY MILDRED E. CARLASCIO AND SECONDED BY HEIKKI UUSTAL, VOTED TO SUPPORT THIS BILL AS IT MAY HELP IMPROVE ACCESS TO CARE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH LIMITED ACCESS TO CARE, HOWEVER THE BOARD IS CONCERNED THAT PROVIDERS WOULD STILL HAVE TO INCUR LEGAL EXPENSE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN IMMUNITY.

Bill A-1545

This bill revises N.J.S.A. 45:1-7.1 to 7.5 of the Uniform Enforcement Act relating to the renewal, reinstatement, reactivation of licensure and out of state applications. Changes to N.J.S.A. 45:1-7.1 to 7.5. It removes the requirement to retake the initial licensing exams after the license has expired for more than five years. It also amends the payment of back renewal fees to one back renewal fee and the current fee. If a licensee has been actively practicing in another state and satisfied the continuing education requirements for that state, he/she will be deemed as satisfying the continuing education requirements for reinstatement purposes. The board retains the ability to require that an applicant complete additional education or examinations in order to demonstrate competency.

THIS BILL REVISES LAW CONCERNING THE UNIFORM ENFORCEMENT ACT, THEREFORE, THE BOARD CONSIDERED THIS AS INFORMATIONAL.

Bill A- 2332

This bill requires public body to publish notice of public meeting on official Internet website.

SINCE MOST OF THE INFORMATION IS ALREADY PLACED ON THE WEBSITE, THE BOARD CONSIDERED THIS AS INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL.

Bill A- 2344

This bill permits individuals seeking licensure to practice orthotics or prosthetics in this State to satisfactorily complete 1900 hours of clinical internship in the professional area in which a license is sought through a residency program accredited by the National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education under the supervision of an orthotist or prosthetist, as the case may be, who is certified by the American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics, Inc.

UPON MOTION MADE BY LOUIS J. HABERMAN AND SECONDED BY MILDREDE E. CARLASCIO, THE BOARD VOTED TO SUPPORT THE BILL, BUT RECOMMENDS THAT THE TERM “CLINICAL PRACTICE” NOT BE REPLACED WITH “WORK EXPERIENCE”.

SENATE BILLS

Bill S-682

This bill establishes process to bar certain health care providers from receiving reimbursements under PIP.

UPON THE MOTION MADE BY MILDRED E. CARLASCIO AND SECONDED BY LOUIS J. HABERMAN, THE BOARD DOES NOT SUPPORT THIS BILL.

Bill S-2727

This bill establishes "Study Commission on E-licensing"

THE BOARD OFFERED NO COMMENTS.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Peter D. Gelinas, Prosthetist-Orthotist (Lic # 45PO00012200)

At its September 2013 meeting, the Board reviewed and approved the re-activation of Mr. Gelinas's license with a request for clarification and completion of his continuing education credits.

The Board reviewed Mr. Gelinas's proofs of successful completion of his continuing education credits.

THE BOARD, UPON THE MOTION MADE BY MILDRED E. CARLASCIO AND SECONDED BY HEIKKI UUSTAL, VOTED TO ACCEPT MR. GELINAS'S CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS AND RE-AFFIRMED THE RE-ACTIVATION OF HIS LICENSE

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Inquiry from Judith Levin-Student
Re: Residency in NY under a NJ licensee.

UPON THE MOTION MADE BY LOUIS J. HABERMAN AND SECONDED BY MILDRED E. CARLASCIO, THE BOARD DIRECTED A LETTER BE SENT STATING THAT UNDER THE CURRENT LAW AN APPLICANT HAS TO COMPLETE 1900 HOURS OF CLINICAL PRACTICE IN THE PROFESSIONAL AREA IN WHICH A LICENSE IS SOUGHT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A DULY LICENSED NJ ORTHOTIST OR PROSTHETIST, AS THE CASE MAY BE.

2. Letter from Laurentine Denise Dwamina
Re: Board's Interpretation of N.J.S.A. 45:12B-11 and N.J.A.C. 13:44H-3.1 and 3.6

UPON THE MOTION MADE BY LOUIS J. HABERMAN AND SECONDED BY MILDRED E. CARLASCIO, THE BOARD DIRECTED A LETTER BE SENT STATING THAT UNDER THE CURRENT LAW AN APPLICANT HAS TO COMPLETE 1900 HOURS OF CLINICAL PRACTICE IN THE PROFESSIONAL AREA IN WHICH A LICENSE IS SOUGHT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A DULY LICENSED NJ ORTHOTIST OR PROSTHETIST, AS THE CASE MAY BE.

V. ADJOURNMENT

AT 11:31 A.M. THE BOARD, UPON A MOTION MADE BY MILDRED E. CARLASCIO AND SECONDED BY LOUIS J. HABERMAN, VOTED TO ADJOURN THE PUBLIC SESSION AND MOVED TO THE EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR ADVICE OF COUNSEL AND REVIEW OF PENDING MATTERS (INCLUDING ANY INVESTIGATIONS). WHEN AND IF ACTION IS TAKEN, IT WILL BE REPORTED IN PUBLIC SESSION.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Anderson
Executive Director